

[Go to old article view](#)**Annals of the Association of American Geographers**[Explore this journal >](#)[View issue TOC](#)

Volume 77, Issue 1

March 1987

Pages 118–125

Ecoregions of the Conterminous United States[James M. Omernik](#)**First published:**March 1987 [Full publication history](#)**DOI:**10.1111/j.1467-8306.1987.tb00149.x [View/save citation](#)**Cited by:**0 articles [Citation tools](#)

Abstract

Abstract A map of ecoregions of the conterminous United States has been compiled to assist managers of aquatic and terrestrial resources in understanding the regional patterns of the realistically attainable quality of these resources. The ecoregions are based on perceived patterns of a combination of causal and integrative factors including land use, land surface form, potential natural vegetation, and soils. A synoptic approach similar to that used to define these ecoregions is also useful for applications of the map. Initial efforts to use the framework are at the state level of resource management; they center on aquatic ecosystems — mainly attainable ranges in chemical quality, biotic assemblages, and lake trophic state.

Continue reading full article**Related content****Articles related to the one you are viewing**

There are currently no results to show, please try again later

WILEY

Browse Publications

Browse by Subject

Resources

Help & Support

Cookies & Privacy

Terms & Conditions

About Us

Wiley Job Network

Advertisers & Agents

Powered by [Wiley Online Library](#) Copyright © 1999 - 2016 [John Wiley & Sons, Inc.](#) All Rights Reserved